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December 27, 1901

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[Telegram, December 19, 1901.]

Referring to my letter of December 18, consul at Vancouver telegraphs smallpox scare subsided. Only cases have been isolated. No present action needed.

JOHN HAY.
Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

CHINA.

Reports from Hongkong—A study of the mosquito with relation to malaria and filariasis.

HONGKONG, CHINA, November 22, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station for the week ended November 9, 1901.

Five steamers were inspected during the week. 628 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 829 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam. There were 4 rejections during the week because of fever. One case of enteric fever was reported in the colony, otherwise there were no cases of communicable diseases reported for the week.

The Hongkong Government Gazette of November 9, 1901, contains a report on the examination of mosquitoes during the year ended September 30, 1901, by Dr. J. C. Thomson, M. D., M. A. The mosquitoes were collected weekly throughout the colony by members of the police force. Dr. Thomson reports the examination of 31,390, 3.7 per cent of that number being anopheles. There were 3 species of anopheles and 12 species of culex. Two species of the anopheles have been recognized as new and have been named anopheles maculatus and anopheles minimus by F. V. Theobald, entomologist at the British Museum. The third species was a subvariety of anopheles sinensis. A chart accompanying the report shows the relative prevalence of malaria and anopheles. The anopheles curve reached its lowest point in February and its highest point in July. The malarial curve, based on the presence of the disease among troops stationed in Hongkong, also reached its lowest point in February and its highest in July.

The most interesting of the culex group is the culex fatigaous, the usual intermediate host of the blood parasite, filaria nothorua, which is not uncommon in Hongkong.

Dr. Thomson, as a prophylactic measure, recommends kerosene to destroy the larvæ and sulphur disinfection to destroy the adult hibernating insects.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Prevalence of dengue.

HONGKONG, CHINA, November 19, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station during the week ended November 16, 1901. Seven vessels were inspected during the week, 217 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 265 bundles of clothing and

bedding were disinfected by steam. No cases of quarantinable diseases were reported during the week.

Dengue is at present very prevalent in the colony. Acting Assistant Surgeon Hugh is at present suffering with a rather severe attack of the disease. Three cases of diphtheria also occurred in the colony during the week. The British steamship *Adams*, which was granted a supplemental bill of health to New York during the week, disembarked 2 of the crew suffering with enteric fever.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CUBA.

Reports from Cienfuegos, Casilda, and Santa Cruz del Sur.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *December 9, 1901.*

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for the island of Cuba, I have the honor to transmit the following report for the district under my command for the week ended December 7, 1901: Nine deaths have occurred in this city; of these, 2 occurred in the civil hospital. No contagious diseases reported. Causes of death were as follows: Pernicious fever, 2; paludism, 2; heart disease, 1; eclampsia, 1; enteritis, 1; bronchitis, 1; congestion, cerebral, 1. Death rate per 1,000 inhabitants, 11.73. Five vessels inspected and passed, granted free pratique; 4 vessels admitted without inspection; 1 vessel, the U. S. collier *Lebanon*, boarded and passed; 18 bills of health issued vessels leaving this port, and 22 alien steerage passengers on steamship *Comino* were inspected and passed.

Casilda.—Acting Asst. Surg. A. Cantero reports 9 deaths in the city of Trinidad. No contagious diseases reported; 11 vessels inspected and passed, granted pratique; 11 bills of health issued vessels leaving Casilda, and no alien passengers landed at that port.

Santa Cruz del Sur.—Acting Asst. Surg. P. M. Quevedo reports no deaths at that port for the week ended November 30. No contagious diseases; 6 vessels inspected and passed, granted pratique; 8 vessels were issued bills of health prior to departure, and no alien steerage passengers were landed at that port.

Respectfully,

E. F. NUNEZ,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of immigrants at Cienfuegos for the week ended December 7, 1901.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *December 9, 1901.*

SIR: I herewith submit report of alien steerage passengers arriving at this port during the week ended December 7, 1901. December 7, steamship *Comino*, from Liverpool and Spanish ports, with 22 immigrants.

Respectfully,

E. F. NUNEZ,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.